the part-time Members in order that one-third of them shall retire every second year. In order to meet the legal requirement of these provisions term of office of two part-time Members, namely, Prof. U.R. Rao and Dr. Abid Hussain has been curtailed from 6 years to 4 years. The term of office of another two part-time Members namely Prof. Romila Thapar and Shri Rajendra Yadav has been curtailed from 6 years to 2 years. This, in no way, affects the plurality of views which Prasar Bharati is expected to project as a broadcaster.

Setting up of Independent Broadcasting Authority

†1913. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Independent broadcast authority" published in the Daily Observer, dated 18th November, 1999;

(b) whether it is a fact that a problem is being created in India by various private broadcasting media;

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard; and

(d) whether Government contemplate setting up of an independent broadcasting authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) To deal all these issues a Broadcast law is under consideration.

(d) Yes, Sir.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.